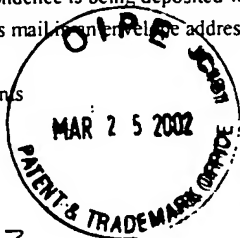


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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 017516-001320US

3737  
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TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:   
Brad J. Loos

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

NOWLIN, William C. et al.

Application No.: 10/052,204

Filed: 01/15/02

For: REPOSITIONING AND  
REORIENTATION OF  
MASTER/SLAVE RELATIONSHIP IN  
MINIMALLY INVASIVE  
TELESURGERY

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 3737

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and  
§1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the references can be found in Application No. 09/398,960, filed 09/17/99 (Attorney Docket No. 17516-001310US). It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Craig P. Wong  
Reg. No. 45,231

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: 650-326-2400  
Fax: 650-326-2422  
CPW:bjl

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